

CALL FOR PAPERS
Celebrating the Arts and Humanities in Primary Education
A special themed issue of Education 3-13

This special themed issue of Education 3-13 will address the growing concern that the arts and the humanities including areas of learning such as visual arts, music, drama, history, geography and religious education are being marginalised in primary curricula, both in the UK and internationally. Despite policy rhetoric emphasising a “broad and balanced curriculum”, many schools struggle to protect time, resources, and expertise for these especially due to the pressures of high stakes testing and accountability focused on the core curriculum of maths and English (Wyse et al, 2022).

The issue will be guest edited by Dr Tony Eaude and Dr Yana Manyukhina, based on the draft timetable below. It is planned that publication will be in the first half of 2027. Articles are usually 6,000 to 6,500 words long, but more detailed guidance will be given to those whose abstracts are accepted. We will try to ensure that the themed issue provides a wide-ranging and academically grounded exploration of the essential role of both the arts and the humanities in primary education in, for example, fostering creativity, empathy, cultural understanding, and critical thinking.

Contributions may be based on academic and/or classroom-based research, work in collaboration with arts and humanities organisations and other initiatives in which the arts and/or the humanities enrich young children’s learning and promote their wellbeing. Articles which demonstrate how these areas of learning can be, or have been, successfully integrated in a balanced and broadly-based primary curriculum whether in England or other systems and/or address challenges such as those related to sustainability, global citizenship and artificial intelligence will be especially welcome.

Key deadlines	
Abstracts due	By 20 th June 2026
Decision on abstracts	By 30 th June 2026
Draft papers due	By 31 st August 2026
Review and feedback to authors	By 30 th September 2026
Revised papers due	By 15 th November 2026
Second stage review (if needed)	By 30 th November 2026
Final articles due	By 31 st December 2026

All abstracts for the Special Issue must be submitted through the journal’s online submission system (Taylor & Francis Editorial Manager): <https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/rett20>. When submitting, please ensure you indicate that your manuscript is for the Special Issue so that it can be correctly routed. If you have any queries in the meantime, please feel free to contact Tony Eaude (tony@edperspectives.org.uk) or Yana Manyukhina (y.manyukhina@ucl.ac.uk). We would be grateful if you would circulate this to other people whom you think would be interested in contributing. Thank you.